

Quid Novi



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McGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

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Living in Fear

Alex Johnston, BCL I

Fear. That's what it is about. The hypothetical conjecturing that we are subjected to, as women, by men when we are confronted with aggression. How far will he go? What is he capable of? Should I be scared?

These are questions that permeated the audience at the Patricia Allen Memorial lecture*. We had just listened to Suzanne Laplante-Edward and Heidi Rathjken talk about the importance of the recently passed gun-control legislation. Both speakers lost female relatives who were murdered in the polytechnique massacre.

The first question from the audience came from a very aggressive man who challenged Heidi on her limited understanding of guns. His aggression only intensified as a security guard moved closer to stand behind him. When he got up to leave he reached into his jacket, as if he had a gun, and laughed as a few people in the audience reacted defensively.

Ironically the second question at the lecture was from an older man who asked whether gun control could solve the problem of violence. I think the behaviour of the first man answered that one. It won't. Guns aren't the only issue.

One of the obstacles in addressing violence is our limited understanding of what this means. We think about guns, we think about blood, we think about conflict. How broadly should we define violence?

The aggressive man at the lecture only used words and yet most of the people in the room felt violated by his

actions; they felt uncomfortable and afraid. I recently interviewed a woman for a project on conjugal violence. She ended up at a woman's shelter because she was afraid of her husband. He stood over her bed at night making strangling gestures as if he would suffocate her in her sleep. On several occasions she telephoned the police but her efforts to have her husband removed from the house were futile. Unless he hit her, they said, there was nothing that they could do.

Within our existing paradigm of violence, we conceptualize violence against women in such a narrow framework that a woman like this can't get help within our judicial system. Expanding our definition of violence to include situations like this one is a necessary step in confronting it. Understanding and defining violence from a female perspective, rather than a uniquely male one, is imperative.

The gun-control legislation may not have a direct impact on this woman's situation because with or without a weapon her husband can find ways to overpower her. However, if we look at violence in broad terms then we can contextualize the importance of gun-control legislation in addressing the overall problem of violence in society. It secured a piece of a puzzle. But there are still a lot of missing pieces.

Solving the puzzle starts with each of us as individuals: what we teach our children; what we say and do to others; what individual action we take in our own lives to address this problem; and, most importantly, how we define and respond

to the problem. This is how inroads will be made.

I saw the young man from the lecture on the bus today. I wonder whether there are women in his life and if they are safe. I hope one day that men like him don't make us afraid. But they do, because we imagine what they are capable of. We have seen it or felt it. We may have experienced it. We react. We defend. We keep struggling in the hope that one day things will be different. For our daughters, for their daughters, for everyone.

*The Patricia Allen Memorial lecture is held every year in honour of a graduate from the Faculty of Law at McGill who was killed by her husband.

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McGILL UNIVERSITY
FEB 7 1996
LAW LIBRARY

Announcements / Annonces

Notes from the Office of Undergraduate Studies:

COMMENCING MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 1996: NEW HOURS FOR OUS: OPEN DAILY 0900-1600 HRS

Faculty budget cuts mean OUS resources have been reduced, yet the volume of work which passes through our office has not. We hope that this daily hour, between 1600 - 1700, when we are closed to students, will result in more efficient service, and we apologise for any inconvenience these revised hours may cause in the short-term.

STUDENTS WHO EXPECT TO GRADUATE IN JUNE 1996: you should check the convocation list posted on the board behind the OUS. If your name does not appear on the list, please see Christine Gervais immediately. You should be aware that the graduation information you input on MARS is not sufficient.

Second Term COURSE VERIFICATION takes place the week of 12-15 (Thursday) FEBRUARY. Take the time to verify your second term courses, your Admission information and address. Graduating students should check

your credit count and ensure you have met all the Required (Obligatory) and Complementary (Semi-obligatory) requirements for your degree/s.

The TWO WEEK PERIOD for reviewing December Examinations and for requesting re-reads ended Friday 2nd February. Only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. the instructor was unable to meet with you; you were comatose) will you be able to view your December examinations or request re-reads.

* * *

Seminars on Alternatives Legal Practice - Working in a community organization:

Wednesday, February 7th from 12:30-14:30 in the Moot Court

Me Richard Goldman from Project Genesis; Me Nathalie Guertin from Groupe d'aide et de harcèlement sexuel au travail; Me David Thompson from le Comité des personnes atteintes du VIH will talk about their experience in community organizations. Everyone is welcome!!

* * *

Placement Office Notice

The Placement Office will be sponsoring MOCK INTERVIEWS from approximately February 7

to February 16. This will be an opportunity for students to practice interview skills and get feedback.

At this point, we are trying to ascertain the level of interest for this program. If you would be interested in participating please sign up at the Placement Office indicating your name, phone number, and times available (3 or more preferences). You will be contacted by the Placement Office for your appointment.

* * *

Graduation Notice

If you are graduating and would like your photo in the yearbook but failed to have your pictures taken at Jostens (despite Alwynn's constant harassment) you CAN submit a photo to me in the next two weeks. I'm also accepting grad writeups up until feb 12th, IF THEY ARE TYPED. Place it in the RES IPSA LOQUITUR box. To ensure the spelling of your name both in the yearbook and on the composite, please email the correct spelling to gillet_a.

* * *

Birth Notice

Congratulations to the newest father in our faculty, Danny Weinberger and his wife Kerri gave birth to a 6.5 lbs baby boy!!

A Message from the Dean

Stephen J. Toope, Dean

New Law Library Project

I am delighted to report two developments which signal the increasing success of our campaign for a new Law Library. First, I want to fill you in on progress related to funding. Because of its historic connection with McGill University, the law firm of McCarthy Tétrault was asked to conduct a special campaign to support the Law Library Project. McCarthy Tétrault has served as University Solicitor for many years, and a number of members of the Board of Governors

have been from that firm. The McCarthy Tétrault campaign has been a remarkable success, bringing over \$600,000 in pledges to the Law Library Project. We have now received over 6.5 million dollars, entirely from private sources, graduates and friends of the Faculty. To my knowledge, this is the most successful fund-raising campaign in the history of any Canadian law faculty. We still have a way to go, but are well on track for reaching our goal.

Given the recent boost to the financial part of the Library Project, the University has decided to allow us to appoint architects. Over the next couple of weeks a small committee will be

struck by the Board of Governors to entertain proposals from various firms. As Dean, I will be invited to sit on that committee. I want to assure you, however, that our internal Faculty committee will continue to sit and will advise me in the process of selection of architects. Two students sit on that committee, Ms. Charlene Cavanaugh and Ms. Deanna Matzanke. If you have any comments, please speak to either of these students. In addition, I will remind you that the building programme elaborated by Professor Adrian Sheppard last year was the result of extensive consultations with faculty and students.

The "Graditude" Program

Dave Lisbona, Nat IV

I would like to take this opportunity to apologize for not explaining the details of this program in September, I was under the misconception that the workings of the "Graditude" program would somehow disseminate to our students. It hasn't! So here it goes!

Fundraising is one of the toughest jobs that we as students have to do. Don't get me wrong, organizing, planning and running activities are challenging, but fundraising requires something extra.

In 1994-95, I was chairman of the fundraising committee of the LSA. Because of the commitment of last year's President Noah Stern and Vice-president Alexandra Kau, we instituted an ambitious fundraising program. We introduced a limited clothing line, plastic mugs at coffee house, the *Centaur* theatre program (thanks in large measure to the excellent work of Martin Valasek) and the *Entertainment* book program. While the initiative, I believe, was well intentioned, our fundraising was met with limited financial success.

This year, we have continued along the line of fundraising progress. We have introduced *Coca Cola* products, an expanded clothing line, magnetic tags for our own photocopier, we brought back the *Centaur* theatre and *Entertainment* books programs and we are continually looking for new initiatives whether they be products or services.

The "Graditude" program was designed as a direct incentive for each individual student to purchase Faculty of law products. In the past, when one purchased any item, the fundraising dollars went directly back into the anonymous black hole known as LSA fundraising, whereas this year, the LSA has decided that for some items, the purchaser who actually buys the product or service should derive the benefit of the sale.

For example, suppose Stephen purchased two *Entertainment* books. On each book the LSA earns approximately \$7. Therefore, Stephen will earn \$14 "Graditude" dollars which will be used directly against his own grad ticket when he graduates! If later on he decides to buy some unique LSA merchandise (available right now at the "Pit Stop") - Let's say a T-Shirt and hat, that's another \$7.50 which goes right back to him. By the time Stephen graduates, he may accumulate \$50, \$60, or even \$100 "Graditude" dollars - a significant contribution toward his grad ticket.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this program, I would really like to hear them! This is a new initiative and it is bound to have some kinks in it. If you would like to see a complete list of products and the number of "Graditude" dollars assigned to each purchase, there is a list posted at the "Pit Stop". Thanks for your attention!

(Oh, by the way if you have made any clothing orders at any time during the year, all clothing has been received. The time between ordering and receipt of clothing has been reduced to approximately two weeks.)



Steven Leitman, BCL II

Top Ten Pickup Lines Overheard at Coffeehouse:

10. "Is that a code in your pocket, or are you just glad to see me?"
9. "So, you're in first year..."
8. "You could never vitiate my consent."
7. "So you're on exchange... how'd you like to practice some comparative law - if you know what I mean..."
6. "Would you like to see my briefs?"
5. "So, who's your favourite Supreme Court Justice?"
4. "You can trespass on my person any day."
3. "It would be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society for you and I to associate."
2. "Equity, usage and law require me to buy you a beer."
1. "Really?! I'm a law student too!"

Un plaidoyer vieux-rose à la une

Jean-Philippe Daoust, Nat. IV

J'ai une révélation à vous faire. Mes frères, tendres machos, adeptes de l'*unpolitical correctness*, fiers séducteurs et autres ne me pardonneront peut-être jamais mais je dois me confesser, l'urgence de la situation l'exige: je suis féministe. Féministe et optimiste. Si féministe qu'en toute franchise la seule distinction fondamentale dans les rôles sociaux attribués respectivement aux genres féminin et masculin en laquelle je crois relève de la pure et simple reproduction. Si optimiste que j'aime non seulement Renaud, mais toute la fouteuse musique française et toute cette France peuplée de machos depuis le succès remporté par *Miss Maggie* ("Aucune femme ne sera jamais plus con que son frère"). Et malgré quelques farces parfois mal placées et de toute évidence peu convaincues, je sais que mes frères mâles pensent aujourd'hui presque tous comme moi.

Mais là trop c'est trop et c'est p't-être pire que pas assez. Je parle ici de l'article de Myriam Bohémier paru à la une dans l'édition du 29 janvier. "Le sujet de mon article va vous sembler désuet" dit-elle pour s'excuser de parler d'un sujet qui a eu le temps de refroidir depuis plus de 50 jours (l'affaire du gros épais à Bienvenue). Et bien Madame, j'entends ici démontrer qu'il n'est pas juste froid votre sujet, il est de l'ère glaciaire ou presque et n'est donc pas le seul dinosaure celui que l'on veut bien croire.

Votre sujet, Madame, ce n'est pas le juge Bienvenue et ses commentaires de crétin de première classe. Si ça s'arrêtait là, ça serait effectivement du "réchauffé" mais de simples excuses suivies d'un commentaire quelque peu original suffiraient à me faire passer l'éponge. Votre sujet Madame, ce n'est pas juste la violence faite aux femmes, qui est un sujet qui ne sera jamais trop abordé puisque c'est une réalité, un problème de société extrêmement grave et que plus on va en

parler, plus on a de chance que les gens, individuellement ou collectivement, en arrivent à rechercher des solutions.

En fait vous en couvrez tellement large dans cet article que pour vraiment cerner votre sujet il faut analyser votre méthode. Vous vous servez d'abord de Bienvenue pour rappeler toutes les injustices passées et présentes subies par les femmes du monde entier. Vous vous servez de Bienvenue pour nous rappeler à quel point l'homme (avec un petit H) a été et est un être abject. Et moi de répondre: "oui mes ancêtres se sont comportés en hommes de la préhistoire, oui des maudits malades se servent de l'avantage physique que la nature leur a donné pour défouler leurs frustrations sur les femmes, oui des cultures que je ne comprends pas et que je ne comprendrai jamais pratique l'ablation du clitoris... Mais Bon Dieu de merde, c'est quoi le lien avec moi, le lecteur, ou même avec un juge attardé?".

La deuxième étape, qui chevauchent sous certains aspects la première, relève d'un procédé pervers et sophiste: la comparaison. Comparer, c'est ce qu'on fait tous depuis la tendre enfance quand on a plus rien de constructif à dire: "Hé Joe, j'ai eu une meilleure note que toi à l'examen!", et Joe de répondre "p't-être, mais toi té laid pis moi chus beau.". Madame, vous faites la même chose. Au lieu de simplement constater l'état de débilité avancé de Bienvenue, vous vous sentez tellement attaquée par ses propos que vous devez absolument vous défendre en comparant, comme ce gros cave l'a fait d'ailleurs: "aucune femme n'a été aussi cruelle que Lépine, Hitler ou Staline. Lorena Bobbitt c'est de la p'tite bière à côté des coupeurs de clitoris. On a traité O.J. en héros, etc." dites-vous. Le problème de ce genre de procédé intellectuel c'est qu'on y projette une attitude très défensive, ce qui fait en sorte que le récepteur doute de la valeur de l'argument. L'autre défaut, c'est

qu'on perd le focus et qu'on mélange des pommes et des oranges. On oublie par exemple que les lecteurs du *Quid* savent pertinemment que ces points de comparaison que vous avancez ne nous aident pas à comprendre la société dans laquelle nous évoluons: Lépine était un malade mental grave, Staline fut le père du totalitarisme moderne et Hitler était probablement le Diable en personne. On oublie également qu'à peu près personne n'a blâmé Mme Bobbitt pour son geste (j'y aurais même tranché les grosses, y paraît que ça se recolle moins facilement) et que cette situation n'a aucun rapport avec le fait (condamnable) de société qu'est l'ablation du clitoris. On oublie également que ceux qui on traité O.J. en héros ne sont pas dans la plupart des cas de vilains sexistes qui croient qu'il a bien fait (ou qu'il n'aurait jamais pu faire ça malgré ses antécédents de batteur de femme), mais des gens qui ont célébré sa victoire sur l'appareil policier raciste de L.A..

Vient finalement une grande analyse du système judiciaire, et ultimement de la société "at large". C'est *a priori* quelque peu prétentieux mais le lien que vous établissez entre l'appareil judiciaire et "les plus communs des mortels" mérite notre attention. L'indépendance judiciaire ça vaut pas d'la merde dites-vous parce qu'en protégeant tous les juges, on protège également les juges cons. Ici je ne conteste pas votre idée en tant que telle mais bien le fait que vous semblez oublier 1) que ce principe relève d'un choix historique, fait en considération de ses avantages et de ses inconvénients, et qu'il faudra bien plus que quelques exemples dispersés de défauts de fonctionnement pour le remettre en question, et 2) que les comités de discipline et les tribunaux supérieurs sont toujours là pour remettre à leur place les juges manifestement impartiaux. Quant à votre questionnement sur la vision que peuvent bien avoir les gens ordinaires des femmes si un juge, personnage instruit chargé d'appliquer la

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loi, se laisse prendre par des stéréotypes et des fausses idées, moi je dis: "de grâce, cessons de grimper sur nos grands chevaux et regardons un peu les faits!". D'abord, et je le répète, le personnage en question n'est pas tout à fait le modèle type de l'homme instruit qui a du recul, mais plutôt un trou de cul, ou un sénile profond. Ensuite la réaction de ses pairs, de la profession juridique et de la population en général nous permet de croire que tous s'entendent pour

condamner les paroles de Bienvenue plutôt que de défendre sa vision des choses.

Ce qui me fait conclure que votre sujet Madame, c'est un portrait de la Femme en tant qu'éternelle victime. Et comme je suis féministe et optimiste, je digère mal cette idée. Je suis en fait si féministe que j'ose croire que les femmes ne sont plus au stade où elles doivent se plaindre, dénoncer et s'apitoyer sur leur sort mais plutôt au stade où elles doivent

laisser braire les paumés comme Bienvenue, s'affirmer, refuser et prendre ce qui leur revient... Et je suis si optimiste que j'espère que cette réponse à votre article ne sera pas comprise comme étant le manifeste d'un salaud (tome II) ou comme une attaque personnelle, mais bien comme un débat d'idées constructif, voué à remettre sérieusement en question une attitude négative qui loin d'aider la cause féministe, lui fait aujourd'hui plutôt perdre de la crédibilité à mon avis.

The Ultra Vires Society Is Back

Charles Morgan, BCL III

The Ultra Vires Society is back for 1996, and we've already had one very successful meeting. Sean Muggah (LLB III) led an extremely dynamic presentation on Sri Lanka and the politics of self determination. Sean spent the summer of 1995 in Sri Lanka working with a lawyer/member of parliament of Tamil origin, who was engaged in the (futile?) attempt to propose constitutional modifications which might help to ward off further ethnic violence. In his presentation, Sean's historical analysis laid the groundwork for an understanding of the multifarious forces that seem to be leading this magnificently beautiful country toward only greater tragedy.

The Ultra Vires Society met five times during first term. Nadine Thwaites (BCL III) bravely inaugurated the 1995-96 session with a discussion of the development of the labour movement in Quebec, including its dark years under Duplessis. Her presentation was followed by that of Serge Koperdak (LLB III). Serge, of Slovak origin, spoke of the break-up of Czechoslovakia, and the lessons which might be brought to bear on the Canadian situation. Hugo Cyr (BCL III) then spoke about the disquieting repercussions that might stem from current research on the genetic mapping of D.N.A. Finally, the Ultra Vires Society held two "après référendum" meetings designed to consider possible avenues for constitutional amendment in the effort to avoid a future

impasse.

The society wishes to thank Sean and each of the speakers from first term for their thoughtful presentations. At Ultra Vires Society meetings students share their own expertise, and explore areas of shared interest, generally outside the legal domain. These presentations are generous gifts of time and experience.

The Ultra Vires Society will continue to meet on a semi-regular basis throughout the term (roughly once every two weeks). Meetings are generally from 5:00-6:00 on Thursdays and participants are encouraged to bring their beer from Coffee House. Upcoming meetings will likely include topics as varied as the challenge faced by Islamic movements, German public television and the lessons it might provide for the CBC, and the merit and folly of decentralization. Everyone is welcome to participate. There are no members, only faithful participants.

Nous sommes ouverts à n'importe quel sujet de discussion.

I'll end with an open question: why is it that so many more people from the LLB class seem to go to the Ultra Vires meetings than from the BCL class, if the latter has twice as many people in it? I'll buy a coffee for the person who E-Mail's me a plausible answer.

Quid Novi
Special Valentine's
Day Issue

You have until
Wednesday, February 7
at 4pm to deposit a
Valentine message in the
Love Box, which is
situated in front of Moot
Court.

You can also submit
articles for that issue.

The Love Quid will
appear on February 14th.

That will be the last issue
before spring break. To
have an article appear in
the February 26 issue,
please submit it by
Wednesday February 14
at 10 am.

JODY TALK

Who am I?

...It's late and my head is spinning. I look down at my all access pass hoping that it will provide the answers that I seek. Alas, I look down only to discover there is no picture there, what an identity crisis. Who am I? I'm just a blip in the Universe, haunting the hallway at 3 AM at the Plaza Universel. I turn the pass over. "Attache Ta Tuque! Hang On!" Who translated this? Even I could do a better job, and just ask Claudine what that says about their language skills. The English should read, "Fasten your seatbelt!" I have no idea what "fringales" are, but I do have the munchies. My pass says that Pizza Salvatore delivers until 5 AM. I look at my watch... It's either 33 AM or 3:30 AM, either way all I need to reach Nirvana is a phone. The problem with hotels is that all the doors look the same. Where's my room, my Pizza, I'm freaking. I start banging on the closest door I can find and luckily its answered by a red suit...Steve Kelly. I can barely speak because I'm so happy. Kelly is on the phone and the pizza is on the way! Meanwhile I have been dubbed master of the rolls and I start trying to live up to my title...

Grid Iron Gladiators

The sky was steel gray and the shinoos were blowing. The McGill six cast their gaze across the field and to the valley below. Once again there had been a whole lot of forfeiting going on, but this time it had been McGill doing it. As it turns out the referee had indicated the wrong playing time the day before and so neither team showed up for the game on time. As things turned out neither team had a full squad and so we played a pick up game as a tune up for the afternoon. The teams were evenly matched and the score was tied going into sudden death overtime. It was at that time that the other team made the crucial mistake of

thinking that they need not cover the McGill women closely, it was a fatal flaw that we had been able to exploit time and time again. The rush was on but our quarterback was able to find Janet "Boom - Boom" Michelin in the end zone for the go ahead touchdown.

There was no rest for the weary as McGill was told they would be playing the winner of the next game. As it turned out U of T won, with their version of the "nickel zone." The major weapon in the arsenal was a lightning fast quarterback rusher who was relentless in his pursuit of unsuspecting quarterbacks. However, after analyzing their defense we thought we'd found a way to use the zone to our advantage. We devised the following strategy. We would throw short ins and outs using the seams in the defense. The strategy worked for a while, but at the end of regulation time the score was still tied. The teams marched up and down the field, but neither side could complete that one critical pass. Overtime quickly exceeded the regular playing time, but neither side would concede the touchdown. Finally U of T made the same mistake of underestimating the McGill women that its predecessors had done, and L. L. Matthews brought down a bullet in the corner of the end - zone.

Exhausted and elated we congratulated ourselves on a job well done and waited for the ref to tell us when the game was tomorrow. Alas, it seemed that the referee wanted us to play again right away for the trophy. We sent in our chief negotiator Alwynn "All win (hey look there's not much to work with here, just ask Alwynn herself)" Gillette. I couldn't stick around for the finals, but we left the team in capable hands...alas victory was not to be ours that day and McGill lost in the finals.

Battle of the bands

If there was a highlight to law games this year, then it must have been the Battle of the Bands. The air was tense as the McGill band, Dominique³ tuned up their equipment. A sea of red suits undulated to the pulsating rhythms of the band. The crowd loved *Illégal* and *J'entends Frapper*, but it was the *Law School Blues* that really brought the crowd to its feet. The sound of McGill's cheers were deafening. The place was overflowing with the crimson spirit! After the concert a woman was overheard telling Elton John that, "I'd never sleep with you, you're too debaucherous." To which he replied, "You think I'm debaucherous...you should see the guy I'm sleeping with now. McGill would go on to win the battle of the bands, something that some band members would celebrate more than others...

Cannes

Hey, haven't we been here before? The scene of the third party was the same as the second. They managed to work out the kinks in buying beer tickets, but not much else was different. The Cannes film festival consisted of three screens playing clips of various movies. Though McGill still had a significant representation many had decided tonight they would make their own party. For example, Big Dave Lisbona decided to pass out in the middle of the dance floor, which was his way of celebrating. Back at the hotel, Elton gave the green light for the Kahuna Gedolah and the Master of the Rolls hasn't been the same since.

"Take me down to the Law Games City where the beer is cold and the women are pretty..."

The Mesquite theme of the final banquet was surrealistic. I felt like I was at my high school prom in Cowboy boots.

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The event took place in a gym. It was the biggest gym that I had ever seen, none the less it was a gym. Much like my high school prom I lacked a date, but my Furry Freak Brothers Elton and Arrrrrrrrrr were out in full force. We must have looked like someone famous because people kept coming up and asking to take our picture as we sat at the table.

Dinner is served...Vegetarians need not apply. The prescription for the evening was a quadruple lamb, boar, pork and roast beast injection. We must have scared the waitress something fierce

because she kept teasing us, saying that we would go next, then changing her mind at the last minute. Steve Kelly coached us all the way to the buffet table, "Now guys don't get drawn in by the salad, because you don't win friends with salad..." The red suits once again saved the day by allowing us to stuff baked potatoes in our pockets, leaving plenty of room on the plates for the meat. Back at the table there was a full fledged feeding frenzy going on. The hard core carnivores Kelly and Marty went back to the buffet for another beef injection. I was simultaneously revolted and amazed as the two tore into beef that

feet, "Now just keep your hands and feet away from their mouths while they are feeding folks..."

After dinner the tension mounted as the awards were being announced. I caught up with our fearless leader as they made ready to announce the coveted spirit award, "We really have a chance to win the Spirit Award this year. Everyone loves our red suits, and I've yelled myself hoarse all weekend..." The announcement came and we were robbed by the big pink flamingoes yet again. Never fear, next year the Spirit Award will be ours my mesquites!

Jody Berkes is a fourth year law student and a survivor of four Law Games. He wishes to thank Dominique and Alex for their tireless efforts in putting together the most spirited Law Games ever, once again proving Law Games is more fun than humans should be allowed to have. His column appears in the Quid Novi.

PICTURES CAN NOW BE PUBLISHED IN THE QUID

In our quest to always improve the school newspaper, the Quid has arranged for pictures to be published. To submit a picture to the Quid Novi:

- it must accompany an article and be relevant;
- it must be clear;
- expect the picture to be cut or bent (ideal size is 2*3 inches).

FURTHERMORE ...

Next Week there will be two issues: our regular Monday issue on Feb. 12 and the Valentine's issue on Feb. 14. The deadline to submit articles is Wed. Feb. 7 @ 10 am for both.

This Summer,
Why Not
Davies?

Dynamic Environment

Client Contact and Responsibility

Challenging and Exciting Legal Work

DAVIES, WARD & BECK

DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE

BYERS CASGRAIN

SOCIÉTÉ EN NOM COLLECTIF

AVOCATS

▼ Droit des affaires

Litige

Droit du travail

Fiscalité

Services bancaires et financiers

Valeurs mobilières

Immobilier

Environnement, énergie et ressources

Planification personnelle et successorale

Droit de l'information et de la technologie

Droit des autochtones

▲
Membre de
McMILLAN BULL CASGRAIN

MONTRÉAL

TORONTO

VANCOUVER

MISSISSAUGA

SURREY

TAIPEI

Pantouflicating

Don McGowan, LLB III

First, the rant

Walking in to school this morning, I had a thought. I know this is somewhat unusual, and the smoke is still pouring from my ears, so I decided to share it with you.

You see, it's about minus 100 outside, and the wind chill has taken it down to about 4° Kelvin. And I was wondering why I have voluntarily chosen to live somewhere like this.

Which led me, surprisingly enough, to the topic of Lucky Luc, our new Deuxième Ministre. I've got a message for him: "If you separate, you won't get better weather."

This is why there are no referenda in February. Because people are too damned cold (and everyone who can be is in Florida). If you tell Québécois in February that they're going to become their own country, they'll wonder if they really want to live somewhere where Hydro-Québec is the *only* source of electricity.

In fact, considering that large parts of English Canada are warmer than Montréal (viz: Vancouver, Toronto, Halifax), it's entirely possible that what few warm days we get in the winter are the fault of the fact that Québec is attached to the Rest of Canada...

You're welcome.

(Of course, Regina and Winnipeg are parts of English Canada too, but I'm ignoring that. Also, Thunder Bay is part of English Canada, but everyone ignores that.)

Just watch the Vermont news sometime: "Cold front coming down from Québec." Or the stuff coming out of Plattsburg: "Cold air over Québec is going to make it pretty bad for us here too."

I think I'm on to something here...

More rant

So, I guess you've all checked your marks, and gone to the Wall of Pain for some Schadenfreude, and now you're thinking, "How did I get an A- in a course I didn't go to and didn't do any of the reading, and how did I get a C+ in a course where I knew everything cold?" This is particularly a problem in First Year, when you still think that your academic performance will be

indexed to something other than the barometric pressure or the Presley-Jackson "marriage".

Welcome to the Ertl Factor.

It works something like this:

1. If you go to the class more than half the time, you'll never get an A.
2. If you go to the class more than two-thirds of the time, you'll never get an A-
3. If you do *all* of the reading, you'll get a B *unless* you broke Rule 1 or 2, in which case you'll get a C+
4. If A, B, and C get into an elevator, and B can only get off after A, and C can only get off on the third floor... (sorry, that's the LSAT).
5. If you get a good summary, you'll get at least a B+.
6. If Pantoufle made your summary, you'll do at least one letter grade better than him.
7. If you get Steve Kelly's notes, you're golden.

The Ertl Factor is named after famed law student and scion of the Ertl toy family Martin Ertl, who came up with the memorable line, "I've got a job now, so my marks don't matter. Now I can start going to my classes."

Now, the Films

From Dusk till Dawn

Genius! Brilliant! Juliette Lewis as trailer trash from Texas, Quentin Tarantino as a sex-crazed geek - who'd have come up with such brilliant casting?

I must admit: when I watch E.R. on Thursday, and I see George Clooney go for the scalpel, I'll feel like I do every time I watch Cheers and see Woody go under the bar. Watch out, Carter! He's got a gun!

But the film itself was genius. Lots of people blow up good. For the boys, there's gratuitous naked people (and Salma Hayek in skimpy clothing). For the girls, there's... Quentin Tarantino. (Then again, for the boys there's lots of scenes of Juliette Lewis, so I guess that balances out the naked people.)

Lots of people blow up *real* good. Who'd have thought that a condom full of

water would be deadly? (Then again, it *is* Mexican tap water...)

Just think of the premise: two escaped cons holed up with their hostage family in a bar full of bikers, truckers, and strippers. Oh, the madcap fun!

You say it's mindless? *Of course* it's mindless! Why else would Pantoufle go see it? But it's great! And sit in the front row, like we did - you can almost taste it!

White Man's Burden

Now here's a movie that made me say, "This is really, well, ehhh."

It had such promise. John Travolta playing a white guy. Harry Belafonte playing a black guy. But it's a world where white people are in the minority. Take your black stereotypes, and put white people into them. Take your rich white people stereotypes, and put black people into them.

But if that's all the plot there is, then it's nothing more than *Weekend at Bernie's*.

And that's all the plot there is.

Now, the End

Bet you thought there'd be something interesting. (Then again, why would you be looking here?)

* * *

The "Deans" 's Gauntlet

To: Don McGowan

From: Stephen J. Toope, Dean

Daniel Jutras, Associate Dean

Thanks for throwing down the gauntlet. We don't really want to pick it up. Any reasons for the lack of parallelism between the semi-obligatory requirements for B.C.L. stream and LL.B. stream students may soon become irrelevant. The Ad Hoc Curriculum Review Committee has already been asked to address the issue. Over the next few months we are likely to see proposals for massive revisions to the curriculum, and we would guess that the issue you raise will be addressed fully.

The real question is, how can any course be "semi-obligatory"? Now there is a gauntlet worth throwing down.